

Dear

## **ATISN 20327**

### **Information requested.**

Thank you for your request which I received on 7 March. You asked for:

1. The estimated total number of acres of land that you own.
  2. The estimated total number of acres that you own which are not in operational use.
  3. The annual spending on managing and maintaining your property estate in the financial year 2022/23. Please provide a breakdown.
  4. The number of golf courses you currently own.
  5. The number of farms you currently own.
  6. The number of commercial buildings you own. If possible please provide a breakdown by category - such as shops, offices, restaurants, pubs, hotels.
  7. The number of empty homes you currently own.
  8. The number of empty buildings you currently own that are not homes.
- Please provide a copy of your asset register.

### **Our response**

From my preliminary assessment I estimate that it will cost more than the appropriate limit set out in the Freedom of Information and Data Protection (Appropriate Limit and Fees) Regulations 2004 to answer your request. The appropriate limit specified for central government is £600. This represents the estimated cost of it taking over 24 hours of time to determine whether we hold the information and to thereafter locate, retrieve and extract it.

Land and building assets are controlled by the individual departments who make use of them. The main departments involved would be:-

- Administrative Estate (predominantly the operational offices)
- Transport and infrastructure (Trunk Roads and Motorways, Rail etc.)
- Economy property division (land and buildings to support economic development)
- Land Division (sites with potential to support housing development)
- Cadw (historic asset portfolio)

In order to provide you with the information that you have requested it would require each department extrapolating information from their sources and compiling it for inclusion in a response. For the purposes of calculating the appropriate limit, I have assessed that the combined total time to locate and compile the information requested would be over 100 hours. That does not include accounting for the very considerable time it would take to carry out an analysis of the extensive highway network.

I am able to report that there is one golf course held and two Farms all of which are let to third parties.

You may find the reply to a recent freedom of Information request useful, with regard to question 2. <https://www.gov.wales/atisn20156>

As regards your final request, Welsh Government property assets are registered at HM Land Registry and are therefore available to the public to interrogate.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/land-registry>

The Welsh Government publishes a detailed report on the administrative portfolio and the most recent can be viewed via this link. <https://www.gov.wales/state-estate-report-2021-2022>

You may wish to refine your request by narrowing its scope by being more specific about what information you particularly wish to obtain, including a specific property, department, or location. If you do refine your request in this way, this will be treated as a new request.

### **Next steps**

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,  
Welsh Government,  
Cathays Park,  
Cardiff,  
CF10 3NQ

or Email: [Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales](mailto:Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales)

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,  
Wycliffe House,  
Water Lane,  
Wilmslow,  
Cheshire,  
SK9 5AF.

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely